

GROWER'S FACTS

W.H.PERRON 

Bird of Paradise

Strelitzia nicolai



Strelitzia, a plant also known as the bird of paradise due to its bird-shaped flower, native from South Africa. With his imposing stature and its large leaves, it rarely goes unnoticed. The species reginae can reach up to 2 m tall at maturity. It takes between five and seven years for a bird of paradise to reach full maturity. It's very rare that they bloom in a house, to favour this one the plant must live in an environment of 10 degrees Celsius during the winter. The bird of paradise is easy to care for, but requires abundant light. It even tolerates direct sunlight. Outdoors, it's best to place it under shelter to prevent leaf scorch. Water it regularly, especially in summer, in hot weather, ideally in the evening to limit evaporation. Let dry between watering's. Spray daily if the air is rather dry or shower it to mimic the effect of a downpour. Repot in the spring, in a larger pot if it's cramped.

CULTURAL PRACTICES: Fill your tray with regular sowing soil. Place the seeds on the soil and water, cover them with a thin layer of soil and water for a second time. Cover your tray with a plastic dome to promote a constant humid environment. The ideal temperature for your seedlings is +/- 23 degrees.

SOIL: Sowing: regular sowing soil. Transplantation: interior soil.

GROWING TIPS: Germination takes about 5 to 6 weeks. Plan 9 to 12 weeks for a plant to be ready for transplantation.